

Clapham Common Management Advisory Committee (CCMAC)

Wednesday, 8 January 2020 at 7pm

Omnibus Theatre, 1 Northside, Clapham, SW4 0QW

Minutes

Present: Simon Millson (Chair – SM), David Dandridge (Vice-chair – DD), Cllr Linda Bray (LB), Cllr Tim Briggs (TB), Cllr Joanna Reynolds (JR), Andrew Summers (Clapham Society – AS), Raffaelle Principe (Friends of Clapham Common – RP), Paul Stephenson (PS)

Apologies: Sarah Yandell (Bandstand Beds – BB), Jeremy Keates (JK), Bruce McInnes (JM) and Krishna Siva (KS)

Guest speaker: Ian Ross, Head of Parks and Leisure Services

Updates from Ian Ross (IR)

IR is Head of Parks and Leisure Services and second in command to Kevin Crook. He has been in office since October 2019.

Dog walking notices – these will be going up soon. Dog walkers need an annual licence from Lambeth. They have to register if doing it professionally. Maximum of six dogs.

Events: existing events strategy is being tweaked to incorporate the Parks for London guidelines. There had been a public consultation on events strategy last year and a response document would be posted on the Lambeth website soon.

Boundary fencing: More fencing has been erected and more will be carried out in the next financial year. IR said that there was an issue in carrying out work on the Paddocks because Lambeth is not the registered owner and hence has no legal jurisdiction over them. TB advised that Lambeth had applied to enter its management interest of the Paddocks on the Land Register.

Wild flower meadows: The ground was too wet in the autumn for the shire horses to plough it, but this will be done in Spring - hopefully at beginning of March. SM said that a formal request should be made to Iain Boulton that the ploughing should be carried out on time.

Resurfacing: Some resurfacing of paths, namely the one from the green waste site to the South Circular, had already been carried out. Other paths will be resurfaced in due course.

Paddling pool: Lambeth Property department was carrying out an independent survey of the plant etc. with a view to forming a forward plan. The problem with algae was pointed out. Ian Boulton is chasing for a commencement date.

Putt in the Park: IR believed that heads of terms had been agreed. However, no planning application was on file in Wandsworth.

Park protection officers: Five are now in place. Their role was more investigatory than enforcement. SM requested that CCMAC could meet them either on a walkabout or at a CCMAC meeting. One issue the officers were pursuing was complaints that the skate park café (previously called Fields) was staying open very late.

Green waste site: work should start this month on removing rubbish and then surfacing so green waste can be processed. DD said Bandstand Beds has not heard anything about what is going on. SM requested IR to provide us with an overall plan of proposed action.

General discussion

DD mentioned that the gents' toilet near the depot had been out of action for three months. Also, the toilets at the tennis courts had been closed for three weeks. IR said he would check this out.

AS asked whether there was any news regarding the Quietway. IR did not know the latest position.

JR advised that the lights around bandstands were not working. Also, lights around the tennis courts were not being replaced expeditiously. IR said the delay arose because a cherry picker has to be brought in.

RP reported that he had had meeting with Ian Boulton and Chris Jude regarding the Friends' plans to plant 50 oak trees and 10 silver birches and 100 shrubs near Battersea Rise playground. John Mackay was preparing a specification. Chris Jude would assist with digging the holes for the trees. DD suggested that RP liaise with TLE regarding placement of the trees.

It was reported that Dr. Boulton will circulate a draft regarding the proposed scrapes in Battersea woods to CCMAC when he has funding.

Rough sleepers: IR reported that two of the rough sleepers had been provided with accommodation and that the site around Eagle Pond had been cleared of rubbish.

The plans for an all-weather pitch on the redgra site were discussed. JR said that several different parties had an interest in the site. It was important to bear in mind that hockey cannot be played on a 4G surface. JR requested that the matter be discussed with CCMAC before anything is decided. DD questioned whether flood lighting would be installed. TB advised that many objections from residents had been made when flood lighting was installed on the basketball/netball court (although Lambeth had taken no notice). There was, therefore, a crucial requirement for early discussion.

TB asked whether there was still objection to events in other parks and commons, for example Brockwell Park. IR reported that an application for Mighty Hoopla in Brockwell Park was going ahead. Members of the committee pointed out to IR the inequality of investment between Clapham Common and other parks despite the fact that Clapham Common provided more income than all other parks and commons in Lambeth.

Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

Working group updates

Playgrounds: JR reported that the project had gone through most of the planning stages and that the provision and installation of equipment had been put out to tender. Caroline Streaks would report shortly by email.

TLE: there would be a walkabout in January regarding the placement of bird and bat boxes.

Member group updates

Friends of Clapham Common: RP reported that the Friends AD planted 200 bulbs. Also, see above re tree-planting. The tree planting was planned for three weekends in February. A speaker from the Woodland Trust had been invited to give a free talk at Omnibus on 15 January 2020 at 7pm entitled “[Planting Our Way Out of Extinction](#)”

Bandstand Beds: the member was not present, but DD reported that the eco-loo has been installed and that the kitchen now has running water. The cost which was £9k had been raised by BsB itself. The AGM will take place on 13 February.

Annual Public Meeting: SM had circulated the draft agenda. Florence Eshalomi M.P., Ian Ross and Kevin Crook had agreed to attend. There are two vacancies for committee members. All the relevant information is on the website.

AOB: none.

Next meeting: Annual Open Meeting 6 February 2020, 7pm at Omnibus.